

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 998  
By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Brooks Franklin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Brooks Franklin; and

WHEREAS, Brooks Franklin was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Franklin served with acumen and alacrity as a journalist, in which position he earned the respect of the citizens of his community and his fellow news writers alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Smith County High School, Brooks Franklin attended Volunteer State Community College and studied mass media for one year; and

WHEREAS, joining *The Lebanon Democrat* in 1979, Mr. Franklin left for Nashville in 1982 to write for the *Nashville Banner*, and he also worked as a publicity manager for Arista Music Associates; and

WHEREAS, returning to *The Lebanon Democrat* in 1991, Brooks Franklin established himself as one of Tennessee's best journalists and editorial writers, and he covered numerous major historical events for *The Lebanon Democrat*; and

WHEREAS, Brooks Franklin received numerous journalism awards from the Associated Press and the Tennessee Press Association (TPA); and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Mr. Franklin won the TPA Award for Personal Humor Column Writing, an award which gave him great satisfaction and pride; and

WHEREAS, devoted to the noble and estimable principles of journalism, Mr. Franklin won the prestigious Malcolm Law Award in 1992, 2004, and 2005, a testament to his talent and ability as a writer and journalist; and

WHEREAS, committed to the cause of helping the poor and disenfranchised, Brooks Franklin wrote a three-part series uncovering the silent but serious problem of poverty in Lebanon, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a true humanitarian and philanthropist, Mr. Franklin played an integral role in the organization and formation of the Brooks Bucks Fundraiser, which benefits Habitat for Humanity; the Brooks Bucks Fundraiser has provided approximately \$15,000 for the international, non-profit agency in its three years of operation; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Brooks Franklin was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Carthage, which he faithfully served for many years; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Franklin always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Brooks Franklin is survived by his parents, Sue Agee and J.C. Franklin; two sisters, Jackie Manning and Cindy Wilmore; nephew, Clayton Wilmore; niece, Misty Manning; and grandmother, Catherine Agee McGibboney; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Franklin epitomized the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to public service that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Brooks Franklin leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Brooks Franklin, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to journalism and civic service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Franklin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.